

Reviewer's report

Title: Assessing the health and development of ART-conceived young adults: A feasibility study

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Reviewer: María Yolanda Makuch

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript refers to a relevant issue in the scientific literature: health and development of Art-conceived children, adolescents and adults. Research in this area still presents controversies and gaps; methodological approaches vary making it difficult at times to read across studies and compare results. One of the difficulties with long term follow-ups is contact with participants. So the first aim of the study - access the feasibility and acceptability of approaching parents of In Vitro fertilization conceived (IVFC) young adults to discuss issues regarding their children's health and the second aim to ascertain matters these families considered relevant for further research – pose a different approach. An approach that presents an important contribution towards knowledge on what are the perspectives within families constituted through IVF techniques on development and health issues.

Ethical issues were cautiously and correctly conducted.

Procedures to contact possible participants, the mothers, are well described, however fathers and young IVFC young adults also participated, and it would be worthwhile to describe how they were contacted and included in the study.

When there was more than one participant in the family, were they all interviewed the same day to avoid the sharing of information? Or was this issue not relevant or not considered? It would be important to comment on this procedure.

Results are well presented and quotations illustrative.

The Discussion focuses on contact many years after infertility treatment, qualitative approach, limitations of retrospective data collection and potential barriers to conduct research on the proposed theme. Health and development of ARTC young adults, one of the themes identified in analysis and “recalled and described in great detail” as stated in the manuscript, is not part of the discussion. It would be important to include these results in the discussion - the perception of mothers, fathers, and young adults - and discuss the data obtained through the interviews with data in the scientific literature.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'